

REMARKS

The Office Action of January 24, 2006 has been reviewed and the comments therein were carefully considered. Claims 1-17 are currently pending. Claims 1-15 are rejected. Claims 16 and 17 are allowed.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for indicating the allowable subject matter of claims 16 and 17.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC §112

Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 14 per the Examiner's suggestion in the current Office Action. In particular, Applicants have amended independent claim 1 to include the feature of "generating the list of parameter value combinations to test, the list including the selected parameter value combinations." In addition, independent claim 14 has been amended to include the feature of "generating the list of parameter values to test, the list including the selected parameter values." Applicants believe that independent claims 1 and 14 are in condition for allowance. Moreover, dependent claim 2-13 and 15 are allowable for at least the same reasons as independent claims 1 and 14 from which they ultimately depend.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC §101

Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 USC §101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 14 per the Examiner's suggestion in the current Office Action. In particular, Applicants have amended independent claim 1 to include the feature of "generating the list of parameter value combinations to test, the list including the selected parameter value combinations." In addition, independent claim 14 has been amended to include the feature of "generating the list of parameter values to test, the list

including the selected parameter values.” Applicants believe that independent claims 1 and 14 are in condition for allowance. Moreover, dependent claim 2-13 and 15 are allowable for at least the same reasons as independent claims 1 and 14 from which they ultimately depend.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending claims and a finding of their allowability. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. Please feel free to contact the undersigned should any questions arise with respect to this case that may be addressed by telephone.

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Respectfully submitted,
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